

Annual Report for 1896.

February 1st, 1897.

To the Chairman and Members of the Astley Bridge
Urban District Council:

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the past year on the Sanitary condition of your District during that period.

You will note from the Table of deaths (A) accompanying this report that the number of deaths registered was 105, and of Births 181 - giving respective rates, on the estimated population of 6,700, of 15.671 and 27.014 per 1,000, - a decrease in the death rate of 2 per 1,000.

Of the deaths twenty-nine occurred under the age of 1 year; thirteen between the ages of 1 year and 5; two between 5 and 15; six between 15 and 25; thirty-four between 25 and 65; and twenty-one over 65 years, the latter being exactly one fifth of the total deaths.

The death rate of children under 1 year old was 160.2 per 1,000 births.

The causes of death were ascribed as follows:-

Zymotics, eight, viz: Typhoid Fever 3, and Whooping Cough 5, the rate being 1.19 per 1,000. Respiratory diseases caused 19 deaths, giving a rate of 2.83 per 1,000; Phthisis five - with a rate 0.74 per 1,000; Chest affections showing a decided decrease during the past year. Deaths from "All other causes" were 73.

Seven inquests were held - the causes of death being varied, possessing no special interests.

The non-Certificated deaths were three - in which inquests

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To the Committee and Members of the Medical Board
Upper Dredging Company:

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure to submit the report for the
year based on the annual audit of our Dredging
operations.

You will note from the table of assets (A) second page
that, total assets amounted to \$1,000,000.00.
Definite, no, on the expense side - I.P. 191 - \$1,000.00
Dredging - \$1,000.00 Total \$1,000.00 per 1,000.
dredges at the rate of 2 & per 1,000.

To the greatest number of the 10
proprietors performing the work of the
Company, I would like to say that they
are doing a good job; and to the men
employed above all else, the Company
wishes to thank them for their
efficiency and hard work.

The geophysical lease of City Island I acre for 1930
per 1,000 square feet.

The course of geophysical work as follows:-

Yankee, eight, May 1: Dredging 2, and Woodbury
Cove 2, plus lease per acre 1.10 per 1,000. Leasehold difference
between 10 geophysical, giving a rate of 2.80 per 1,000; Dredging
Tide - with a rate of 0.4 per 1,000; Cost of all operations should be
double dredge charge giving the base of 100% over
comes, more or less.

Several inquiries were made - the course of geophysical work
as follows, depending on specific interests.

were declined by the Coroner, deaths being attributed to "Convulsions" two, Premature birth, one. These uncertified cases have much diminished in late years, a cause for much satisfaction.

During the year I have had nine cases of Scarlet fever notified to me, all of a mild character, unattended by any fatal result. Also a very unusual number of Typhoid fever cases - 23 in all. Most of them were of a modified form - though three proved fatal. In my monthly reports I have referred to these cases. Those occurring at Eden's Hollow were undoubtedly owing to bad sanitary conditions and defects of personal cleanliness. The father died, and the family removed to Workhouse Hospital by order of the Union Medical Officer in attendance. The house disinfected and closed, the beds, bedding and clothing destroyed. Typhoid also appeared in George Street - five being attacked in one house; these cases were undoubtedly due to the milk obtained from a Farm at which two cases subsequently developed. I also clearly traced several others cases to this source. The great majority of these proved of a mild character with no fatal result. I have no doubt the original cause of this outbreak was due to insanitary surroundings, and I felt it my duty to close the farm and remove the cows. These were sold - and no further sale of milk has taken place. The water supply was from the Bolton Corporation.

The other cases of "Fever" were scattered in the district and had no origin in common.

I instructed the Inspector to visit and report upon every person who had been in the custom of obtaining milk from the farm referred to; this he did, and in no instance did he find any other case of illness other than those already reported to me. The age of every person living in each house was given. The number of houses so visited was 48 - in addition to which

he called at every house where he heard of any illness existing.

The other two fatal cases of Typhoid were - in a man at Blackburn Road - where the sanitary surroundings appeared satisfactory; and the other in a boy aged 4 years at Belmont Road.

In all cases of Infectious diseases - Sulphur dioxide fumigation has been employed, and in many cases clothes and bedding destroyed. Thirty notices of abatement of nuisances have been served - and duly carried out.

The Cow and Dairy Sheds have been visited and observations taken as to cleanliness and water supply, &c.

Refuse from Slaughter-houses, fish shops, &c. is removed by the carts of the Council - regularly - and utilized as manure.

Night-soil is also used as manure - the ashes being tipped.

A considerable amount of drainage work has been done during the year.

Four beasts have been condemned and destroyed as unfit for food. Eight others examined and passed by your Inspectors.

A considerable number of Houses have been built at Broad o'th Lane, Bar Lane, Belmont Road, Old Road, Greenwood Vale, &c.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

Robert Settle, M.D.

Med. Officer of Health.

in calling at such hours unless he has to do so
to meet a man - or to buy a boat - if a man
buys him a boat - where the same difficulties appear
as before; and the only way is to get a boat of his own
boat.

In all cases of infection disease - sailors taking
trifles from their peers evidently, and in many cases of those among
peopling deficiency. This is a consequence of indifference
towards their peers - and quite striking out.
The Government has been visiting the operations
posters as to cleanliness and after supper, &c.
removal is to their greater pleasure, than those
as before - and particularly - the course of
the course of the country -

Might-be it is also true as some people
believe.

A considerable amount of disease now has gone away
since.

Now, please have your commanding and health as well
as I hope. They offer no examination and based by our inspection
for long. A considerable number of those have been put off to
off to sea, Ben Tele, Belmont, Ota Log, Greenlog
Mata, &c.

I am

Your obedient servant,

Hopewell, M.D.

W.M. Officer of Health.